

Superior Court Judge

Jason M. Gist, Third Judicial District



MAILING ADDRESS: 125 Trading Bay Rd.
Kenai, AK 99611

AGE: 47

PLACE OF BIRTH: Hanford, CA

SPOUSE’S NAME: Michelle Gist

CHILDREN’S NAMES: Kaitlynn, Alexander

LENGTH OF RESIDENCY IN ALASKA: 18 years

ALASKAN COMMUNITIES LIVED IN:
Anchorage, Kenai

EDUCATION:
California State University, Fresno, B.S. Criminology
2001
University of California, Boalt Hall School of Law, J.D.
2004

POLITICAL AND GOVERNMENT POSITIONS:
Law Clerk to Chief Justice Alexander O. Bryner, 2004-05
Assistant District Attorney, 2008-2018
Superior Court Judge, 2018-present

BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS:
Kempel, Huffman & Ellis, P.C. 2005-2008

SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS MEMBERSHIPS:

Alaska Bar Association
Kenai Peninsula Bar Association
Criminal Rules Committee

SPECIAL INTERESTS:

Fishing, golf, skiing

OTHER:

My wife and I moved to Alaska in 2004 for a one-year adventure. Within just a few months, we realized Alaska would be our permanent home. My wife is a special education teacher, and we have spent most of our careers in public service. When we are not working, you will find us out fishing, boating, playing golf and skiing. Alaska has been an amazing place to live and raise our children over the past 18 years.

STATEMENT:

It has been my privilege to serve as a Superior Court Judge in Kenai since 2018. I have also served as a traveling judge for Homer and Seward. My docket includes felony criminal matters, child in need of aid cases, family, civil litigation and probate matters. Managing this varied caseload has been both challenging and rewarding. My goal as a judge is to recognize that for those involved, each case is likely the most important matter currently in their lives, and to treat each case and party with fairness, dignity and respect. I am committed to following and applying the Constitution and state laws objectively and fairly. I prepare thoroughly for hearings ahead of time to best serve the parties, and do my best to provide parties with detailed, written decisions. As part of my commitment to provide Alaskans access to the court system, I have spent the last three years helping implement an electronic case filing system in the Kenai courts, to make it easier for parties to file cases and pleadings. As a judge, I have participated in local Bar Association meetings and local youth courts, am a member of the Criminal Rules Committee, and have given presentations at the junior high school about our court system. I have spent most of my career in public service, and would be honored to continue serving as a judge in Kenai.

*The views expressed in this statement are from the candidate and not endorsed by the Division of Elections.
The text of this statement was provided and paid for by the candidate in accordance with AS 15.58.030 and 6 AAC 25.690.*

Alaska Judicial Council Evaluation

Judge Jason Gist, Kenai Superior Court

The Alaska Judicial Council finds Judge Gist met or exceeded performance standards, and recommends a **“YES”** vote for another term in office

Judge Gist was appointed to the Kenai Superior Court in November of 2018. Judge Gist handles civil and criminal cases. This is his first retention evaluation.

Summary: After conducting its performance review, the Judicial Council determined that Judge Gist met or exceeded performance standards on all criteria, including legal ability, integrity, impartiality/fairness, temperament, diligence, and administrative skills. The Council further concluded that Judge Gist complied with judicial ethics standards.

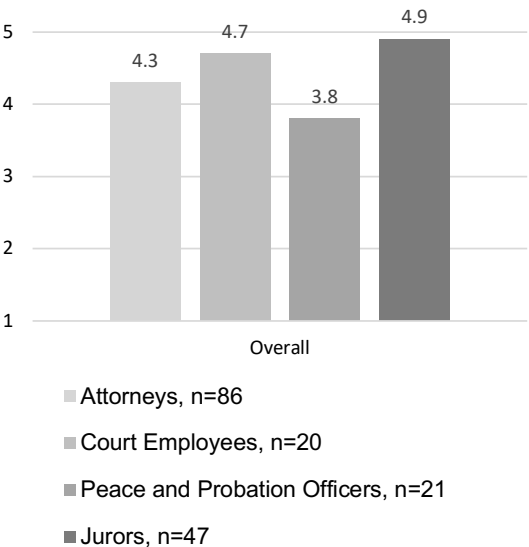
The Alaska Judicial Council therefore **recommends a “yes” vote** to retain Judge Gist in office.

Survey ratings: Attorneys and peace and probation officers who appeared before Judge Gist gave him excellent reviews, as did court employees. Jurors rated him very highly. One juror commented, “I was very impressed with the judge and how he was thoughtful to our outside lives.” The chart shows some of the survey ratings received by Judge Gist. Complete survey ratings are available at www.ajc.state.ak.us.

Professional activities: The Council’s review of Judge Gist’s professional activities showed positive contributions to the administration of justice and his community. Judge Gist made contributions in the areas of committee service and youth activities. A detailed list of Judge Gist’s professional and community activities is posted at www.ajc.state.ak.us.

Other performance indicators: The Council reviewed other performance indicators for Judge Gist, including financial and conflict of interest statements, whether pay was withheld for an untimely decision, how often parties disqualified him from cases, and appellate reversal rates. Judge Gist performed well in these areas.

Justice System Professionals' Survey Ratings for "Overall" Job Performance for Judge Gist



Rated on a scale from 5 (excellent) to 1 (poor)

*Judges are rated by different groups depending on caseloads.

Find this judge’s full performance evaluation at www.ajc.state.ak.us